Solar Energy Policy: Lessons and Opportunities

Ken Zweibel
Director, The George Washington University Solar Institute
zweibel@gwu.edu

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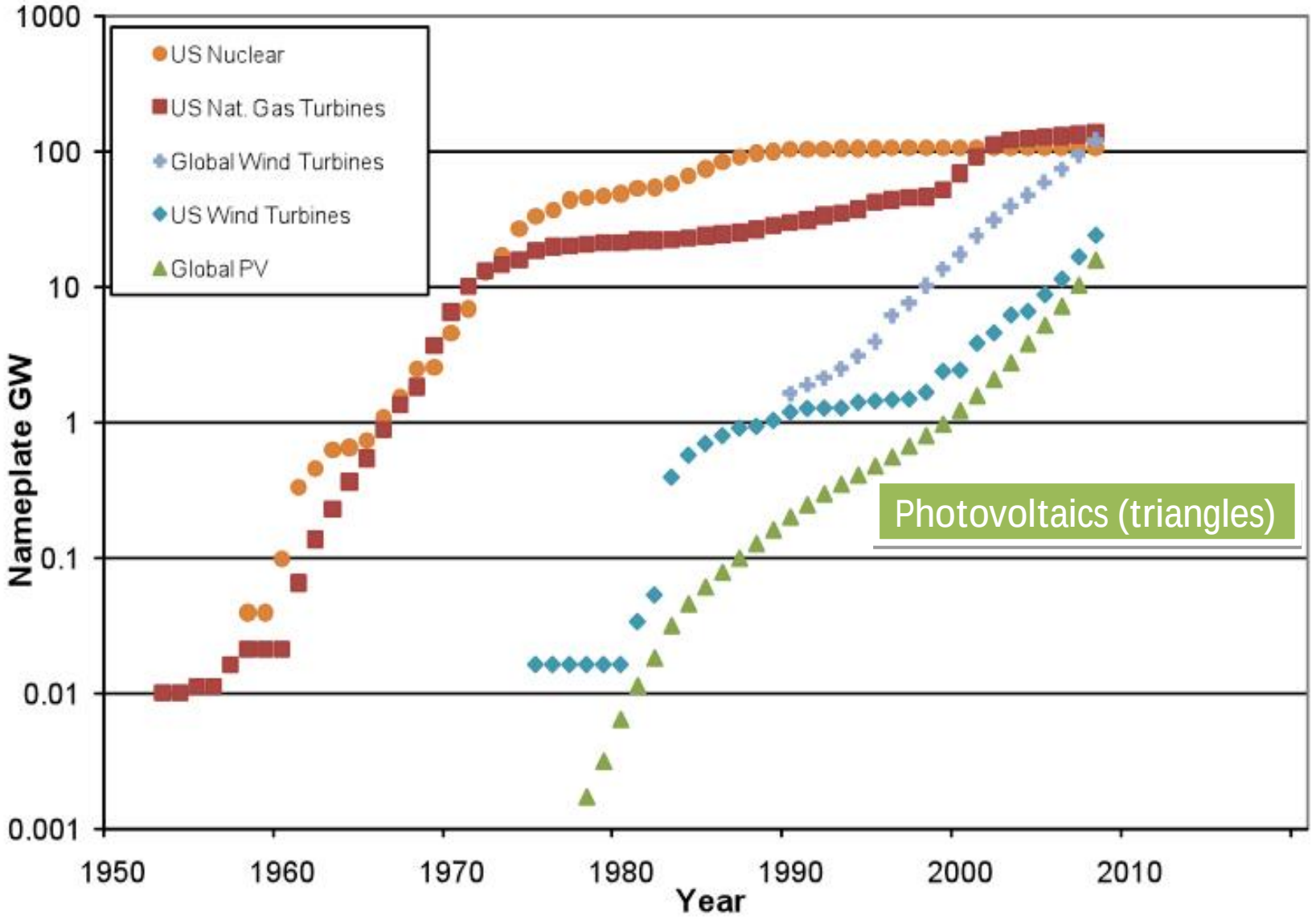
- Solar meets important societal goals
  - Price stability and climate change
- Solar cannot become cost-effective without both R&D and market-pull funding
- Solar has a record of success when funded
- Progress is
  - Science and technology development
  - Learning by doing
  - Economies of scale (including market efficiency)

Rapid deployment has occurred in prior technology innovations and is now occurring in wind and PV (source: T. Peterson, 2010)



Solar Policy Payoffs

Germany

- Policy of market incentives is the biggest driver of PV success *worldwide*
  - Investment growth
  - Cost reductions
  - Market growth throughout the world
- Collateral plusses
  - Local job creation
  - Local energy
  - Experience in managing PV output variability

US

- Incredibly effective in creating new, significant PV technologies (CdTe, CIGS, III-V concentrators)

Thanks

zweibel@gwu.edu

http://solar.gwu.edu/

http://thesolarreview.org/

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Alhama de Granada, Spain (1.88MW); Phoenix Solar AG